

Statement from The Arc of Illinois on Governor's statement regarding Choate Developmental Center

Tribune journalist, Jeremy Gorner, <u>reported</u> on a recent statement from Governor Pritzker regarding ongoing allegations of abuse at Choate Developmental Center in Anna, IL. The Governor stated, "Look, there's no doubt there are continuing issues at Choate and if those continue, as I say, we can't keep it open," ..."So, we'll continue to work on this because it is vital that we have the proper care for our developmentally disabled."

We couldn't agree more.

The Arc of Illinois continues to stand ready to support the Governor's office and the Division of Developmental Disabilities to develop a safe and thoughtful closure plan for Choate through a process of transitioning its residents into community settings. Further, we support increased funding to assure that the community system has the capacity to support all people with IDD in the communities of their choosing.

--- Amie Lulinski, PhD, Executive Director